

REMARKS

Claims 21-41 are pending. Applicant has amended claims 21 and 34. Claims 1-20 have been canceled.

The Examiner has rejected claims 21-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Palmer. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Palmer describes a system which allows multiple users on systems to share applications across a network. Palmer's system is server-based in which a server runs applications for clients. The output of each application is displayed on the server and the client display devices within an application window of a shared region. When an application executing at the server changes the content of its application window, the server sends updated graphics information to the clients so that they can update their application windows accordingly. Palmer's system determines the pixel depth of the graphics information to transmit based on the pixel depth of the "root window of the windowing system of the server" (Palmer, 5:62-6:2.) and the pixel depth of the application windows. It appears that Palmer always selects the pixel depth of the root window. (Palmer, 6:25-67.) Palmer also sends mapping information that the clients can use to convert the graphics information received from the server to a pixel depth that is appropriate to the client. Palmer's server generates the mapping information based on the pixel depth of the client and the pixel depth in which the graphics are transmitted. Palmer, however, does not select a pixel depth for transmission that is in any way based on the pixel depths supported by the clients, rather it is only based on the pixel depths of the root window and the application windows of the server.

Claims 21-33 recite the steps of "examining color depth capabilities of all the conference participants" and "transmitting true color graphics if the examining indicates that all participants can support true color graphics." Palmer's server does not select true color graphics based on the examination of the color depth capabilities of its clients. Rather, Palmer selects true color graphics when the root window and an application

window both support true color graphics. Palmer's selection of true color graphic is not in any way dependent on the color depth capability of any client. Applicant notes, however, that Palmer's server does send mapping information (i.e., color ramp) to a client so that the client can map the graphics information that is received in the color depth selected by the server to a color depth appropriate for the client. That is, Palmer's uses analysis of color depth capabilities of its clients to generate the mapping information, but it does not use that analysis to determine the pixel depth that is used to transmit the graphics information.

Claims 34-41 recite "identifying the minimum color depth supported by any conference participant" and "transmitting graphics at that minimum color depth." As discussed above, Palmer's server transmits graphics at a color depth based on the color depths of the root window and the application windows. Palmer's server does not select a color depth based on the color depth of its clients (i.e., participants) as recited by these claims.

Based upon these remarks and amendments, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8548.

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Respectfully submitted,

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